

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 PA-03 PRS-01 RSR-01 RSC-01 INR-10

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R 301030Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO USIA WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9032

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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USIAC

USIA FOR IAA; SECSTATE FOR AF; PARIS FOR ARS

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT : "SELECTION" (FRENCH EDITION - READER'S DIGEST):
SUPPRESSION IN REPUBLIC OF GUINEA

1. THE POLITICAL SECTION OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, REPUBLIC OF GUINEA, HAS REQUESTED THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER TO DISCONTINUE THE IMPORTATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF "SELECTION DU READER'S DIGEST".

2. THE REQUEST BY THE GOVERNMENT OF GUINEA RESULTED FROM WHAT IT CONSIDERS AS THE "UNETHICAL AND UNPROFESSIONAL" PRESENTATION IN OCTOBER, 1972, ISSUE OF "READER'S DIGEST OF INTERVIEW WHICH PRESIDENT TOURE GRANTED TWO "DIGEST" REPORTERS, DAVID REED (AMERICAN JOURNALIST) AND FRANCES SCHELL (READER'S DIGEST CORRESPONDENT IN PARIS) AT CONAKRY IN FEBRUARY, 1972. GUINEAN AUTHORITIES FEEL THAT PRESIDENT TOURE'S INTERVIEW SHOULD HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED VERBATIM AND NOT INTERMINGLED WITH PERSONAL REACTIONS OF WHAT TWO JOURNALISTS OBSERVED.

3. GUINEAN OFFICIALS' REMARKS - "JOURNALISTS HAVE A RIGHT
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TO PUBLISH THEIR REACTIONS TO OBSERVATIONS. ALTHOUGH WE

MIGHT NOT AGREE, THAT IS THEIR RIGHT. HOWEVER, WHEN A CHIEF OF STATE HAS AFFORDED THEM AN INTERVIEW, IT IS THEIR PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY TO QUOTE AS ACCURATELY AS POSSIBLE THE CHIEF OF STATE, WITHOUT THE INTERSPERSION OF THEIR PERSONAL REACTIONS."

4. FOR ARS PARIS: POST RECEIVES FORTY (40) COPIES OF EACH ISSUE "SELECTIONS". IN VIEW OF GUINEA GOVERNMENT'S POSITION, IT IS REQUESTED OUR ORDER BE CANCELLED.
RYAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973CONAKR01360
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: CONAKRY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973086/aaaaaeha.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Jan-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <29-Jan-2002 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: : "SELECTION" (FRENCH EDITION - READER'S DIGEST): SUPPRESSION IN REPUBLIC OF GUINEA
TAGS: AORG
To: USIA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005